

# SOUTH DAKOTA FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

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News Release

January 31, 2005

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## ***FARM NUMBERS UNCHANGED FROM 2004***

**SIOUX FALLS, January 31, 2005** – The number of farms in South Dakota in 2004 is estimated at 31,600, unchanged from 2003, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Office. This is down 7 percent from 34,000 farms ten years ago and down 15 percent from 37,000 farms twenty years ago. Total land in farms in 2004, at 43.8 million acres, is unchanged from one year ago. The average farm size of 1,386 acres is also unchanged.

By sales class there were 8,600 farms in the \$1,000-\$9,999 size group, down 200 from 2003; 12,600 farms in the \$10,000-\$99,999 size groups, down 100 from one year earlier; 6,200 farms in the \$100,000-\$249,999 size group, unchanged from one year earlier; 2,700 farms in the \$250,000-\$499,999 size group, up 100 from one year earlier; and 1,500 farms in the \$500,000 plus size group, up 200 from one year earlier.

*The complete report can be accessed at [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/)  
or call Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at  
605-323-6500*